

Notice of Allowability

Application N .

10/618,039

Examin r

Terry L Englund

Applicant(s)

BAUER, TREVOR J.

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amd/TD (Apr 20, 2004).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-17 (now renumbered as 1-7, respectively for printing purposes).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

TIMOTHY P. CALLAHAN

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Part of Paper No./Mail Date 05072004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Response to Amendment/Terminal Disclaimer

The amendment and terminal disclaimer submitted on April 20, 2004 were reviewed and considered with the following results.

The amended change to the abstract overcame its objection, which has now been withdrawn.

The cancellation of claims 1-10 rendered their respective rejections moot.

The terminal disclaimer overcame the double patenting rejections of claims 11-17. Therefore, those rejections have also been withdrawn.

There is no known objection or rejection remaining within the present application.

Reasons for Allowance

None of the prior art references reviewed and considered show a system comprising the plurality of programmable logic blocks, interconnect lines, and multiplexer circuits as recited within independent claim 11. More specifically, none of the references clearly show or disclose a system with a plurality of multiplexer circuits that programmably couple the plurality of interconnect lines to each other, as well as to a plurality of logic blocks, as recited within independent claim 11 (upon which claims 12-17 depend). Since there is no strong motivation to modify or combine any prior art reference(s) to ensure the system comprises those relationships (i.e. the coupling of interconnect lines and logic blocks using a plurality of multiplexer circuits, wherein each circuit has the specific pass gate pairs/memory cells structure), the claims are deemed patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

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Claims 11-17 are allowable, and have been renumbered 1-7, respectively for printing purposes. The renumbering takes into account the cancellation of original claims 1-10.

Any inquiry concerning this communication, or previous communications, from the examiner should be directed to Terry L. Englund whose telephone number is (571) 272-1743. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 7 AM to 3 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached on (571) 272-1740.

The new central official fax number is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562.

TLE
Terry L. Englund

7 May 2004